

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 DRC-01 /108 W

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R 211331Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8665

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 15102

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CI IN

SUBJECT: MRS. ALLENDE TO VISIT INDIA

1. MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MEA) OFFICER HAS CONFIRMED LOCAL NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT HORTENSIA BUSSI V.DE ALLENDE, WIDOW OF THE LATE PRESIDENT OF CHILE, WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY VISIT INDIA FOR A WEEK OR SO BEGINNING DECEMBER 27. IN HER CAPACITY AS A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMUNIST-FRONT WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION (WIDF), MRS. ALLENDE HAS BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THE EIGHT CONGRESS OF THE WIDP-AFFILIATED NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDIAN WOMEN (NFIW) IN CALCUTTA. UNCONFIRMED NEWS REPORTS STATE THAT MRS. ALLENDE WILL LATER VISIT HYDERABAD TO ATTEND A COMMUNIST-SPONSORED SEMINAR.

2. THE MEA OFFICER STRESSED THAT ALTHOUGH HIS MINISTRY HAD GIVEN "POLITICAL CLEARANCE" TO THE INDIAN EMBASSY IN MEXICO FOR HER VISIT, MRS. ALLENDE'S STAY IN INDIA WOULD BE "COMPLETELY UNOFFICIAL". HE ADDED THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY PLANS TO INCLUDE NEW DELHI IN HER ITINERARY. ASKED IF THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD RECEIVE HER,

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HE REPLIED THAT IF MRS. ALLENDE CAME TO THE CAPITAL "MRS. GANDHI MIGHT WANT TO SEE HER PRIVATELY."

3. COMMENT: JUDGING BY PAST PRACTICE, IF MRS. ALLENDE VISITS INDIA, SHE WILL STOP IN NEW DELHI; IF SHE STOPS HERE, MRS. GANDHI WILL RECEIVE HER PRIVATELY--WITH PHOTOGRAPHERS PRESENT. MRS. GANDHI REACTED EMOTIONALLY TO ALLENDE'S ORTHROW IN SEPTEMBER, AND WE DO NOT COMPLETELY RULE OUT SOME EXPRESSIONS OF INDIGNATION BY HER THIS TIME. THE NFIW CONGRESS SHOULD ATTRACT ATTENTION ONLY IN THE COMMUNIST PRESS. A GANDHI-ALLENDE MEETING, HOWEVER, WOULD RECEIVE WIDER PLAY AND CALL FORTH ANOTHER BRIEF ROUND OF ANTI-US, ANTI-CIA RHETORIIC FROM COMMUNIST POLITICIANS AND THEIR ALLIES IN THE RULING CONGRESS.

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